

V. REMARKS

The Office Action indicates that claims 1-9 are pending in the application. However, a Preliminary Amendment was filed on October 22, 2003, the filing date of the Application. In addition to amendments in the Preliminary Amendment, claims 10-20 were also added to the application. Unfortunately, the United States Patent and Trademark Office inadvertently failed to examine claims 10-20 that were added in the application at the time of filing. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner examine claims 10-20 as well as the newly-added claims 21-24 and present the results of the examination to Applicant in a subsequent non-final Office Action.

Also, in the Office Action Summary, paragraph 12c indicates that none of the priority documents have been received by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. However, a Claim for Priority and Submission of the Priority Documents was filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 22, 2003, the filing date of the Application. As proof thereof, a copy of the date-stamped postcard receipt, the Claim for Priority and Submission of Documents and a copy of the first page of the priority document is filed herewith. Applicants respectfully request correction of paragraph 12 in the Office Action Summary indicating that the certified copies all the priority documents have been received.

The specification is objected to because of informalities. The reference character "33" in page 10, line 4 was inadvertently placed to refer to "a buried portion," but the reference character should be "31." The specification is amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The drawing figures are objected to because the claimed "housing main body" comprises wall portions 12, 14, 16 and housing base portion 11, which define the housing space 21 as shown in the drawing figures. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that no corrections in the drawings are needed. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully submits other minor amendments have been made to the specification as indicated above to correct potentially confusing language. No new matter has been added to the specification as a result of these amendments.

Claims 1, 4-8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Hirata (US Patent No. 5,984,698). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended above, both claims 1 and 9 recite a first conductor portion (121) a second conductor portion (141 or 161). Hirata does not disclose the first conductor portion (121).

Therefore, the invention recited in claim 1 or 9 is not anticipated by Hirata. As such, claims 1 and 9 are allowable over the applied art.

Claims 5-8 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Claim 4 is canceled and therefore the rejection as applied thereto is now moot.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Trush et al. (US Patent No. 5,425,651). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended above, claim 1 recites a first conductor portion (121) a second conductor portion (141 or 161). Trush et al. does not disclose the second conductor portion (141 or 161).

Therefore, the invention recited in claim 1 is not anticipated over Trush et al. such that claim 1 should be allowable over the applied art.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, there are no suggestions in combining the two references since their structures are quite different in nature.

Newly-added claims 21-24 also include features not shown in the applied art. Claim 21 is currently added to realize the equivalent claim to the old claim 6, which was allowed in the office action mailed on August 24, 2004. All the limitations of the old claims 1, 5 and 6 are incorporated in claim 21 such that claim 21 is now in condition for allowance. Claims 22-24 are currently added and depend from claim 21, which should be allowable as mentioned above. Therefore, claims 22-24 should be in a condition for allowance. No new matter is included in these and the amended claims.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal
 Petition for Extension of Time
 copy - date-stamped postcard receipt,
 copy - Claim for Priority and Submission of Documents
 copy - first page of the priority document

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